

Town of Scituate
Video Update #5 April 2, 2020

Hi everyone:

It's Thursday April 2nd. I'm Karen Connolly, a member of the Board of Selectmen, here with Jim Boudreau, our Town Administrator, and Ron Griffin, Superintendent of Schools, to give you an update on what's going on in Scituate with Covid 19.

Jim Boudreau, Town Administrator

Scituate has 29 cases of Covid 19 up from 21 earlier this week. Half of these cases have finished quarantine and there have been no fatalities as of today.

The State is reviewing the list of businesses considered essential. We are looking for guidance from the state on Town construction projects and have not heard back yet.

Chief Stewart has posted a letter on the Police department facebook page. Please review it with everyone in your household, especially young people. If places like the lighthouse or the Driftway Park get too crowded and people are not practicing social distancing, we will have consider closing them. Hull has asked to State to close Nantasket. Duxbury is considering closing their beach because of the large crowds that were there last weekend.

Transfer Station stickers expired yesterday. Transfer Station employees have been instructed NOT to turn people away if they have an expired sticker. There will be a two week grace period for people to send their money in. So far, the Treasurer's Office has processed 1,738 stickers this year compared to 1,935 last year. We have been asked why not waive fees? We can't because the Transfer Station is an enterprise fund. The money it takes through stickers and bags is used for operating costs including waste disposal and paying employees. If we don't have the money, we can't keep it open and we will not have money to pay employees.

If you are a small business, contact your bank about loans and grants that are being put into place by the Federal government.

The most frequently asked question coming into Town Hall lately has been about taxes. The deadline for paying your property taxes is May 1st. By law, the Town can't waive this deadline. The state legislature is considering changing this and we would consider it if the law passes. But this could have serious consequences for the town and its ability to operate and pay bills.

Finally, we are expecting a storm this weekend with minor coastal flooding and high winds.

Ron Griffin, Superintendent of Schools
Update on schools (attach document, please)

Karen Connolly, Board of Selectmen member

The Town and its various boards and committees are trying to keep things moving via teleconferencing where possible but we ask for everyone's patience as we are in uncharted territory. Check the Town website for meeting schedules.

This video will air on Channel 9 for the next couple of days

You can also access it by going to Scituate Community TV YouTube.

The next scheduled update will be on Monday, April 6.

We must fight this virus as a community by caring for each other. And that means staying apart from one another for the time being.

Thanks for watching and stay well.